

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 2, 3, 9, 11 and 12 by rewriting as follows:

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1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for preventing the spread of disease through a knife when cutting seed potatoes by eliminating said knife and for ~~of~~ cutting seed potatoes for planting with a liquid comprising the steps of:

sizing seed potatoes for cutting into seed;  
supplying a chamber with a water jet passing across said chamber;  
moving said seed potatoes through said water jet; and  
cutting said seed potato with said water jet.

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 1 wherein the spent water from said ~~the~~ water jet cut is collected by a discharge ~~directed from said water jet by a stream collector~~ tube.

3. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 2 wherein the termination point of said water jet is supplied by said discharge ~~stream collector~~ tube.

4. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 3 wherein at least two water jets are used to make multiple cuts on said seed potatoes.

5. (ORIGINAL) A cut seed potato produced by the method of claim 1.

6. (ORIGINAL) A cut seed potato produced by the method of claim 2.

7. (ORIGINAL) A cut seed potato produced by the method of claim 3

8. (ORIGINAL) A cut seed potato produced by the method of claim 4.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for cutting seed potatoes and of preventing the spread of disease caused by a cutting knife by eliminating the use of said knife for planting and preventing the spread of disease from one cut potato to another comprising the steps of:

sizing seed potatoes for cutting into seed using a sorter;  
 holding said seed potatoes in a stable position;  
 moving said seed potatoes through at least one high pressure water jet; and  
 cutting said seed potato with said high pressure water jet.

10. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 9 wherein a liquid source is supplied to said high pressure water jet.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 10 wherein the spent liquid from the high pressure water jet cut is directed away from said high pressure water jet by a discharge ~~stream collector~~ tube.

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 11 wherein the termination point of said water jet is supplied by said discharge ~~stream collector~~ tube.

13. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 9 wherein at least two water jets are used to make multiple cuts on said seed potatoes.

14. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 9 wherein said water jet is supplied by a stream of liquid of at least 10,000 pounds per square inch.

15. (ORIGINAL) A cut seed potato produced by the method of claim 9.

16. (ORIGINAL) A cut seed potato produced by the method of claim 10.

17. (ORIGINAL) A cut seed potato produced by the method of claim 11

18. (ORIGINAL) A cut seed potato produced by the method of claim 12.

19. (ORIGINAL) A cut seed potato produced by the method of claim 13.

20. (ORIGINAL) A cut seed potato produced by the method of claim 14.

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